

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAJ-01 EB-07 AID-05 OPIC-03 /075 W

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R 151601Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6182

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L 6079

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO, AU

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST YOUTH LEADER VISIT TO AUSTRIA

1. LEADER OF PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST PARTY YOUTH MOVEMENT, ANTONIO JOSE PROENCA, VISITED AUSTRIA FOR SEVERAL DAYS IN EARLY JULY AT INVITATION OF AUSTRIAN SOCIALIST YOUTH (SJO). SJO CHAIRMAN JOHANN HARTZEL TOLD EMBOFF OBJECTIVE WAS TO HELP INCREASE CONTACTS WITH PORTUGUESE SOCIALISTS AT ALL POSSIBLE LEVELS AS WELL AS TO SECURE INFORMATION ABOUT CONFUSING SITUATION IN PORTUGAL. BOTH HARTZEL AND HEINZ NITTEL, CHAIRMAN OF VIENNA SOCIALIST PARTY, TOLD EMBOFF THAT PROENCA HAD BEEN OPTIMISTIC ABOUT DEVELOPING SUPPORT WITHIN PORTUGUESE MILITARY MOVEMENT FOR SOCIALIST POSITION ON POLITICAL PLURALISM. PROENCA CAUTIONED AGAINST PREMATURE JUDGMENTS CONCERNING OUTCOME OF STRUGGLE, WHICH WAS CONSUMATED ON TWO LEVELS, ONE PUBLIC AND ONE PRIVATE. HE INDICATED INTERACTION OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE STRUGGLES WAS CONFUSING BUT THAT THOSE MOST AGGRESSIVE ON PUBLIC LEVEL NEED NOT NECESSAIRLY WIN.

2. PROENCA SPOKE TO SEVERAL MEETINGS OF AUSTRIA'S YOUNG SOCIALISTS, MET WITH SOCIALIST PARLIAMENTARY LEADERS, AND HELD PRESS CONFERENCE. HE TOLD
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REPORTERS THAT PORTUGUESE SOCIALISTS WERE

SEEKING UNDERSTANDING WITH OTHER PARTIES IN PORTUGAL
BECAUSE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS REQUIRED IT. HE SAID
SOCIALISTS HOPED FOR EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY BUT DID NOT
EXPECT U.S. ECONOMIC AID.

3. NITTEL TOLD EMBOFF THAT PROENCA REJECTED HIS
SUGGESTION THAT EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AID PLAN FOR
PORTUGAL BE CREATED ON MODEL OF MARSHALL PLAN,
APPARENTLY BECAUSE OF MARSHALL PLAN'S ANTI-COMMUNIST
CONNOTATIONS. PROENCA TOLD NITTEL AID FOR PORTUGAL
SHOULD BE ON BASIS OF PORTUGUESE DRAFT PROGRAM,
AND UNTIED EXCEPT POSSIBLY FOR SOME CAPITAL GOODS
EXPENDITURES IN WEST EUROPE. BUCHANAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOCIALISM, PARTY STRENGTH, YOUTH GROUPS, POLITICAL LEADERS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975VIENNA06079
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750244-0620
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750753/aaaabvpw.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <02 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST YOUTH LEADER VISIT TO AUSTRIA
TAGS: PINT, PO, AU, (PROENCA, ANTONIO JOSE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006